

Design Advisory Committee for Phase II of St Paul Changsha China Friendship Garden
As of 10/28/219

Name	Organization	Email
Ali Van	MCFGs Board	alzvan@gmail.com
ALI VAN feels motility. She lives in taxis and inspirits everyday. She is concerned with being here.		
Romi Slowiak	MCFGs Board	romislowiak@gmail.com
Romi Slowiak lives on the east shore of Lake Phalen and has fallen in love with this garden art form. She has been on the board of the Minnesota China Friendship Garden Society since 2015.		
Linda Mealey-Lohmann	MCFGs Board	linda.chinagarden@comcast.net
Co-Founder of the MN China Friendship Garden Society (2005) and was its President from 2005 to 2020. She led MCFGs through Phase I fundraising (over \$1 million) and Phase I construction to the Grand Opening in 2019; and was project manager for the 9 Art Stones. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in East Asian Studies, a Master's Degree in Chinese Language and Literature, and is fluent in Mandarin Chinese. She has done extensive research on China Gardens, Chinese culture and literature/poetry, over nearly 40 years and 23 trips to China.		
Bill Zajicek	MCFGs Board	mcfgs@mnchinagarden.org
Brian Hammer	MCFGs Board	brianhammer.mcfgs@gmail.com
Brian holds a PhD in human geography from the University of Washington in Seattle and has worked in the US-Asia Pacific global education arena for many years. He currently serves as Executive Director of think2perform Research Institute, a non-profit promoting emotional intelligence and ethical leadership based in the Twin Cities.		
Mary Warpeha	MCFGs Board	marywarpeha@gmail.com
Bill Pesek	MCFGs Honorary Advisor	williampesekcity@gmail.com
Jijun He	Chinese Advisory Committee (CAC)	hejijun@hotmail.com

Christina Deng Morrison	CAC	cdengmorri@yahoo.com
<p>Christina has a Bachelor's degree in English, a Master's degree in Communications and a Master's degree in Eastern European Literature. She is the Founder and President of TJL International, a multilingual communications agency.</p> <p>Christina has been a Chinese Advisory Board member since 2017. She became a board member of MCFGs in 2021. As the Editor in Chief of Minnesota Chinese World, Christina has personally written or published many Chinese articles and news reports about the China Friendship Garden. Minnesota Chinese World was awarded "The Best Media" in 2019 at the Garden Grand Opening Gala Banquet.</p> <p>Christina also serves as the President of Sino-American Neocultural Exchange. She has successfully planned, hosted, or organized numerous large-scale Chinese cultural events in the Twin Cities since 2009.</p>		
Ping Wang	CAC	pwang118@gmail.com
Meichun Jia	CAC	meichundaily@gmail.com
Haoyu Zhao	CAC	Haoyu.h.zhao@gmail.com
<p>Haoyu Zhao is a Chinese landscape designer based off Minneapolis/Boston area, she recently completed her Master Degree of Landscape Architecture at Harvard Graduate School of Design. She also holds a Bachelor Degree of Engineering from East China University of Science and Technology in Shanghai. Her academic works received 2019 BSLA Student Merit Awards.</p>		

Name	Organization	email
Thangying Chuyangheu	Hmong Adv Committee	thangyingh@yahoo.com
<p>Ying Chu-Yang-Heu is the Chairman of the Hmong Advisory Committee for the MM-China Friendship Garden. Ying was born in March 15, 1956 in Laos. Ying was a Law School student in Laos.</p> <p>Ying is now a Business Owner in MN. And in Laos.</p>		
Vallen Herr	Hmong Adv Committee	koua2@hotmail.com
Donna Yang	Hmong Adv Committee	dona.yang@hotmail.com

<p>My name is Dona Vu Yang. I am a board member for Hmong Cultural Heritage Preservation Inc, and Hmong Advisory Group. I am also on Hmong Plaza Design Committee. I am currently working as Office Manager at Wellness Adult Day Care in St. Paul, MN. I speak Hmong, Lao, Thai, French, and English.</p>		
Kao Lee Thao	Hmong Adv Committee	kaoleethao@innerswirl.com
<p>Kao Lee Thao is a Visual/Public artist and 3D animator. All of her inspirations come from my dreams and personal experiences. With every stroke I leave behind a window into my soul, hoping to spark inspiration in others to transport viewers to a world of fantasy, reminding us not to forget what imagination can accomplish in life.</p>		
Nelsie Yang	Ward 6	ward6@ci.stpaul.mn.us
Jack Byers	District 5 Payne Phalen	director@paynephalen.org
Stuart Knappmiller	Community Rep (CR)	stuartknappmiller49@hotmail.com
<p>Stuart Knappmiller and his partner Mary Ellen raised two children in their home a block off the SW corner of Lake Phalen. For 45 years they've run, biked, canoed, swam, nordic skied most every day there. He has volunteered for a Living at Home Program, The Center for Victims of Torture, MN PTA, SPPS, St Paul Parks, Ramsey Washington Water Stewards, Lower Phalen Creek Project and lobbied for multiple environmental and justice NGO's.</p>		
Susan Klevan	CR	seklevan@yahoo.com
<p>I am an avid gardener experienced growing perennials and Minnesota native pollinator plants. I am a member of the Garden Club of Ramsey County, currently serving as treasurer. My background is in managing software for financial services firms. I have visited China and love that this garden in my neighborhood is bringing together a partnership between Changsha and Saint Paul and building relationships among people from different backgrounds. The chosen site and design for extending the garden to the lagoon with rocks, perennials and bridge as well as the existing temple and arch are stunning. I am honored to be invited to serve on this community group for the Changsha China Friendship Garden.</p>		
Jeff Vang	CR	jeff.hmonghlc@gmail.com
Regina Rippel	CR	reginar99@yahoo.com
<p>I am retired and fill my days with part-time work and volunteering. One of those tasks is maintaining a community garden. This was a lot with a condemned house. After the house was demolished I developed this garden</p>		

after the D5 got permission. I have also remodeled several homes and done many landscaping projects; I have a good eye for color and shape coordination. I am a world traveler and enjoy what other cultures have to offer.